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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JANUARY 22, 1861.

Ordered to be printed.

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**AMENDMENT**

Proposed to be offered by Mr. THADDEUS STEVENS.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3   That the President is hereby authorized and empowered, when,  
4   in his judgment, he shall deem it necessary, to suspend all laws  
5   and parts of laws establishing ports of entry, collection dis-  
6   tricts, or other means of collecting revenue in the States of  
7   South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, or any other  
8   State that has now or may hereafter secede from the Union,  
9   or be in rebellion against the United States, and continue such  
10   suspension until said State or States shall return to their loyalty  
11   to the United States. The President shall give notice of such  
12   suspension by proclamation, which shall take effect in ten  
13   days thereafter.

1       SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That during the con-  
2   tinuance of such suspension it shall not be lawful for any vessel,

3 foreign or domestic, except such as belong to the United  
 4 States, to enter or leave any port of said State or States, either  
 5 for foreign ports or coastwise.

1       SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That if any vessel  
 2 should be found violating the provisions of this act, the said  
 3 vessel and cargo shall be forfeited, the one half to the captors  
 4 and the other half to the United States, to be tried in any court  
 5 of admiralty jurisdiction in the United States.

1       SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the Presi-  
 2 dent shall have power in like manner to suspend all laws estab-  
 3 lishing post offices or post routes within any such State or  
 4 States; and the mails of the United States shall thereafter be  
 5 carried only to the line of said State or States, except where it  
 6 may be necessary to pass through such State to reach a loyal  
 7 State, but then it shall not be opened in a seceding or rebellious  
 8 State.

1       SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the President  
 2 shall have power to use the army and navy to execute this law.

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## **AMENDMENT**

Proposed to be submitted, at a proper time, by Mr. BRANCH.

To the end that all occasion for the use of force may be removed,  
and to prevent the breaking out of civil war pending the deliberations of Congress on the existing crisis in public affairs :

- 1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That all the laws of the United States be, and are hereby, sus-  
4       pended, until the first day of January, eighteen hundred and  
5       sixty-two, in and over those States which have heretofore  
6       adopted, or which may previous to said day adopt, ordinances  
7       of secession.